

MAJOR \ MINOR • FURRY ANIME • FANCON '18

FURRY TIMES™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN FURS



Geekfest '18 • NordicFuzzCon '18
• Confuzzled '18 • Dog Days
• Aggretsuko • Sonic (TLS) Comic
• The Art of Nanukk Luik

Aggretsuko

ISSUE 3 - AUG - OCT 2018

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FURRY TIMES™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN FURS

ISSN 2518-8755

VOLUME 3 AUGUST - OCTOBER 2018

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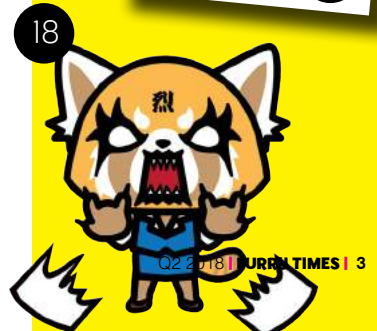
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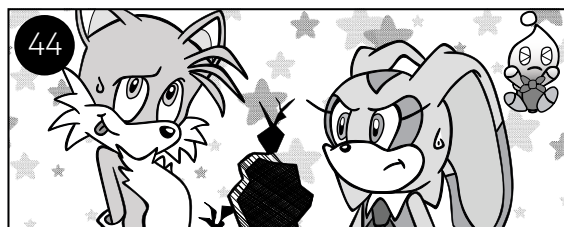
LAUGH IT OFF, FUZZBUTTS

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A PERSPECTIVE FROM RAVENSONG



OUR COVER FURRIES
FEATURING Eylof "Lucky" Wolf
and FoxLite (Butt Senpai)



Welcome to issue number three. What a ride it has been since the previous issue was launched.

For reasons unknown, the second issue did exceptionally better than the first, and I was genuinely surprised by this. The stats from ISSUU were three fold better for the second issue compared to the first. This of course bodes very well for this project and the overall future of the fandom and I am encouraged by this.

Future Directions

Thanks to the encouraging stats and increased popularity of this magazine, we are planning to take this project to Patreon to raise funding for project expansion, of which print will be a significant part. To ensure the success of this we will be making a slight change in the masthead and tagline from next issue onwards- we won't specifically be just for South African furies; we will be catering to furies worldwide. This is already the way we are heading with the coverage we've secured of international conventions.

A pawesome year so far

Goodness me, a lot of furry goodness has taken place in 2018. We've started the year very well, and some of the best cons have taken place already. In this edition we're bringing you coverage of two of the best conferences in the world, namely Confuzzled (UK) and NordicFuzzCon (Sweden). Then of course, we are bringing you coverage of our own local events, namely FanCon (Western Cape) and GeekFest (Johannesburg).

Featured Artist- Nanukk Luik

In this issue we are featuring a very well-known artist who needs no introduction. Nanukk Luik, one of the most well-known local furry artists. Please enjoy some of his amazing work and talent with us.

Furry Humour

We have also added to our staff complement, the wonderfully humorous and skilled artist Thunderfluff Mceevue, better known as Animew. Featured in the current humour page is the comic he did for Zafur's Star Wars themed art competition. Animew will be heading up the Furry Humour pages. Enjoy a really good laugh with us :)

FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Anime Goodness

It has come to our attention that aside from the occasional furry themes in anime, there appears to be a tendency towards more mainstream featuring of furry in anime. An oft-forgotten anime series we are covering in this issue is Dog Days (now in season three after a hiatus), and of course, a new character created by SANRIO, known as Aggretsuko. Of course, SANRIO is the company famous for Hello Kitty and other well-known characters. In future we will keep an eye out for furry in anime, and where relevant, we will feature these.

MythBusters?

Not exactly we can't use that as it's the name of a well-known reality TV series. However we're doing something that's much like that. In this issue is the first instalment of what we call "Furry Misconceptions". The idea is to try and break down some of the awful stereotypes and misconceptions that non-furies and others contemplating the fandom have about us. This is, in my opinion, a better idea than trying to publish an information booklet, as Anthrocon has attempted to do. It is experimental, and any feedback would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks for sticking with us, and please enjoy issue number three. Best Regards

ArtyLoop

EDITORIAL TEAM

ArtyLoop

Ivic Wulfe

Trace

Noé Lausberg

@ArtyLoop1

@Ivic_Wulfe

@good_unique2

HUMOUR DEPARTMENT

ThunderFluff

WANTED



ALL FURRIES AT SOUTH AFRIFUR 18

13 TO 16 JULY 2018



Venue: Getaway Coaches, Culinan, Gauteng, ZA
Registration / Info: www.south-afrifur.co.za

EVENTS

AUGUST THRU OCTOBER 2018

CanFURence 2018
 MEGAPLEX 2018
 Anthro Weekend Utah 2018
 BRASIL FURFEST 2018
 EUROFURENCE 2018
 DENFUR 2018
 INDYFURCON 2018
 FURSONACON 2018
 FURRY MIGRATION 2018
 EMERALD'S FUR SUMMIT 2018
 SNAKE RIVER FANDOM CON '18
 ALAMO CITY FURRY INVASION '18
 ANTHRO SOUTHEAST 2018
 FURPOCALYPSE 2018
 INFURNITY 2018
 FURRY CRUISE 2018
 Flüüfff 2018

3 -5 AUGUST 2018
 3 - 5 AUGUST 2018
 10 - 12 AUGUST 2018
 17 - 19 AUGUST 2018
 22 - 26 AUGUST 2018
 24 - 26 AUGUST 2018
 24 - 26 AUGUST 2018
 6 - 9 SEPTEMBER 2018
 7 - 9 SEPTEMBER 2018
 21 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2018
 27 - 29 SEPTEMBER 2018
 5 - 7 OCTOBER 2018
 11 - 14 OCTOBER 2018
 26 - 28 OCTOBER 2018
 27 - 28 OCTOBER 2018
 26 - 28 OCTOBER 2018
 31 OCT - NOV 4 2018

OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA
 ORLANDO, FLORIDA, USA
 LAYTON, UT, USA
 SANTOS, SP, BRAZIL
 BERLIN, GERMANY
 DENVER CO, USA
 INDIANAPOLIS, IN, USA
 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
 MINNEAPOLIS, MN, USA
 PENSACOLA, FL, USA
 POCATELLO, ID, USA
 SAN ANTONIO, TX, USA
 CHATTANOOGA, TN, USA
 CROMWELL, CT, USA
 TAOYUAN, TAIWAN
 DEPARTING LOS ANGELES, CA, USA
 BLACKENBERGE, BELGIUM, EU





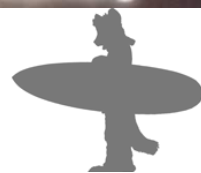
Brasil
**FUR
FEST**

EuroFurence 24

Aviators - Conquer the Sky!

✈ AUG 22, 2018 - ✈ AUG 26, 2018 ♦ Berlin, Germany

Furry Cruise



iFC
AUG 24-26 2018
INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT EAST

GUESTS OF HONOUR:
BCBREAKAWAY
ATIMIST



ACFT
MUSIC CITY DUBBY INVASION
THE ROAD TO FURDITON
OCT. 5-7TH, 2018

61 TROPICANO RIVERWALK HOTEL
110 LEXINGTON AVE
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205
PH (210) 223-9461
Chattanooga, TN

PRE-REGISTRATION
ATTENDING \$45
SPONSOR \$80
SUPER SPONSOR \$125
FURRYINVASION.ORG
CoH: Tartil

October 11-14, 2018

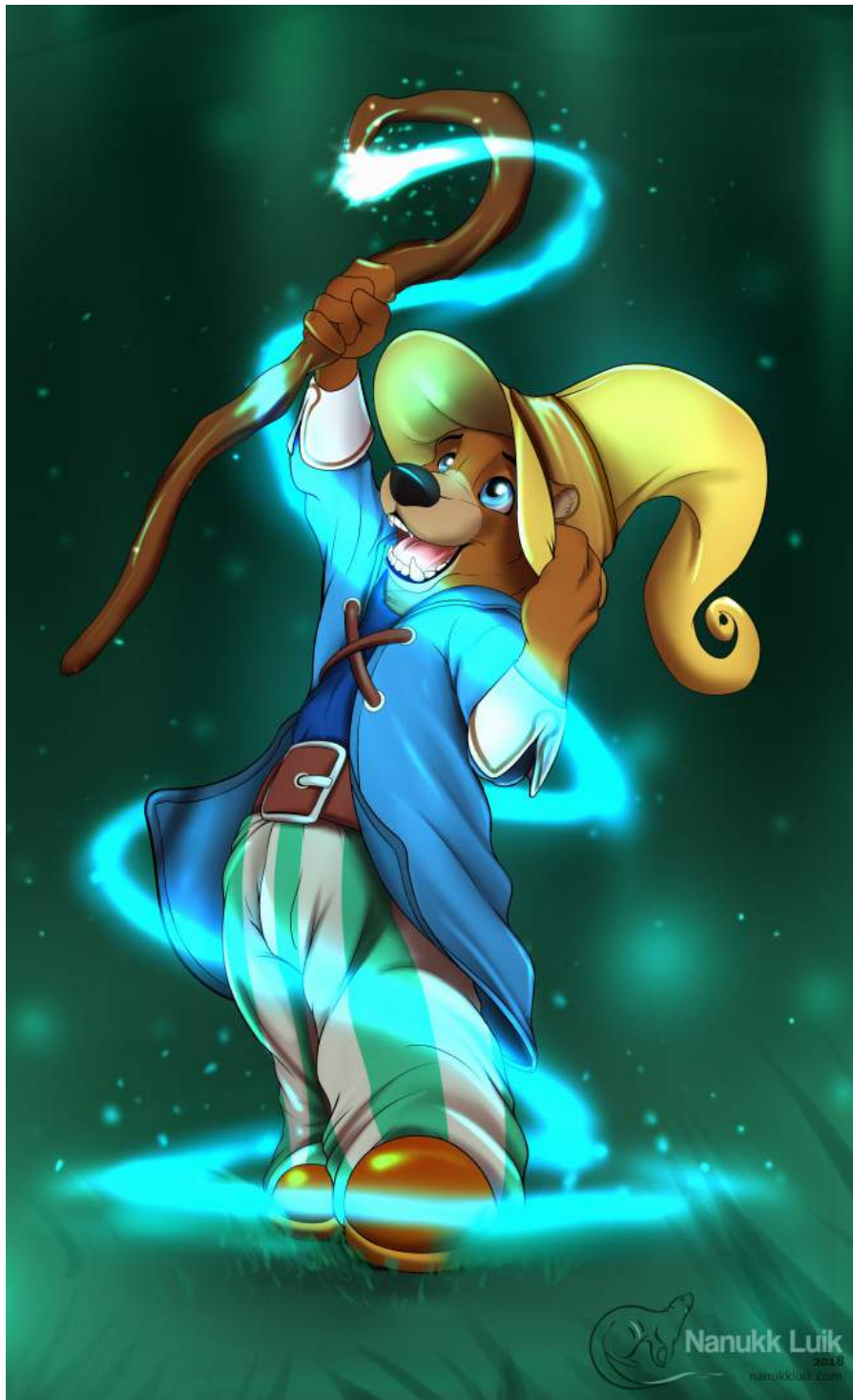
**ANTHRO
SOUTHEAST**
Scenic City Splashdown
Chattanooga Marriott Downtown



TAIWAN FURRY CONVENTION
INFURNITY
FURRY TALE
2018.10.27-28



SNAKE RIVER
CON
FANDOM
SEPTEMBER 28 - 30, 2018
POCATELLO, IDAHO
FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND PATREON



FACT SHEET

Fursona Name: Nanukk Luik

Species: American River Otter

Age: 27

Tools of the trade: PaintTool SAI

Blender, Unity, Adobe® Suite

Medium: Digital and Traditional

(Only traditional when power goes out)

Inspired by:

-William Hogarth

-Leonardo di ser Piero da Vinci

-Edmund McMillen

-And basically everyone on my
Furaffinity Watch List



Above Left
Chimerabear The Black Mage



Above Right
Ironwolf Tempest



Nanukk Luik

**FEATURED
ARTIST**

IN EVERY ISSUE
WE FEATURE AN UPCOMING
FURRY ARTIST AND THEIR WORK
FOR ALL TO ENJOY

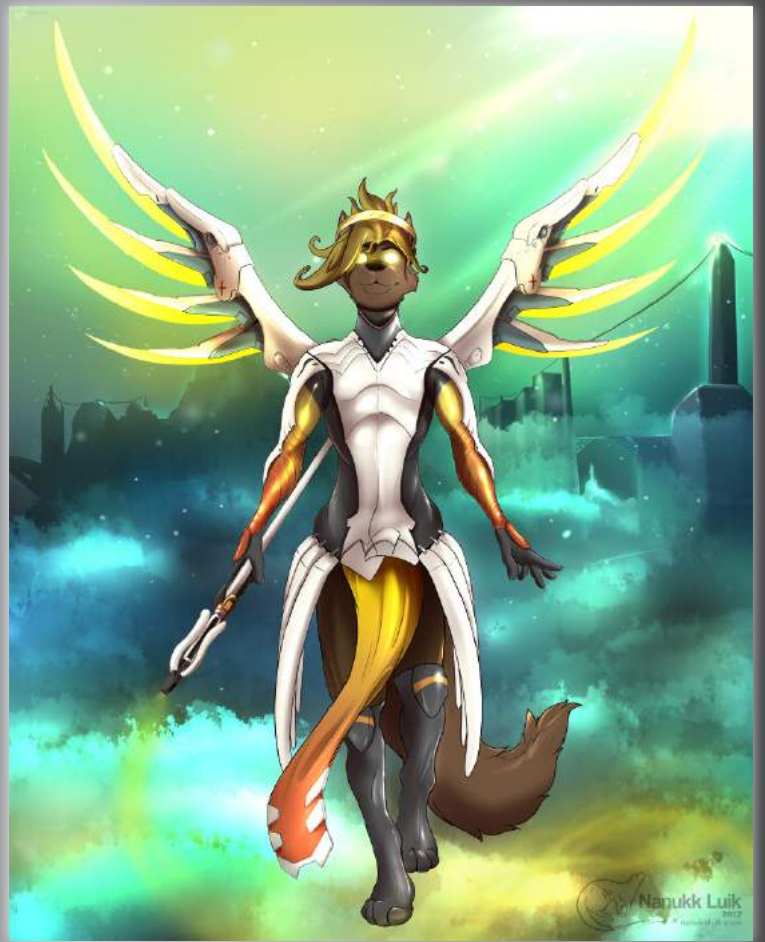
Right (Top to bottom)

1. Eylolf Wolf WW2 Pilot

2. Faanvolla Angelic Mercy

3. Stevie Maxwell The Mage





Nanukk Luik

For us it is a special privilege to get to know a little bit more about one of the most well-known and skilled artists in South Africa, Nanukk Luik.



FT: You've come a long way with art, would you tell us where it all began for you?

NL: When I first joined the community back in 2005, I saw a lot of talent around the fandom. Artists, fursuit makers, musicians; talent that I wanted to be a part of. My ambitions were, and probably still are, to do as much as possible to impress and innovate the world. Art was more my calling, however, and I stuck through it. When I couldn't find a job relating to Fine Art in 2012, I asked my family to help support me financially for the first year of my digital art career and after a year – I was able to pay rent and provide back to my family. The help and support of my family and those who saw potential in me pushed me to where I am today.

FT: We've seen a few local artists enter the same space you have, and somehow you've managed to keep going and quite successfully so. How do you manage to do this, and without burnout and all the other problems that seem to hold other local (and international) artists back?

NL: I find that artists, including myself, have something pushing us back. It's actually a common trend in those working for themselves. You have to wear all the hats being a freelancer – otherwise it falls flat and the further you fall – the harder it is to climb back up. Motivation, pushing yourself, and still maintaining some time and joy between your days will help anyone finish their work and prevent burnout. Being an artist, you have to be in a motivational mood to draw accurately. So a good balance in your social life is all well and good but if you can provide that fun, exciting attitude while drawing – then your workload becomes easier. It's all up to you and how you push motivation onto yourself.

FT: We, and particularly myself as editor have seen the meteoric rise of the furry artist over the last decade, which has, in many ways been built on the power of the internet and the furry fandom at large. Today many furry artists make a decent living from doing art, as a full-time profession. Do you foresee this ever reaching a point where it will plateau or is it similar to other artistic pursuits where there is no limit, for example, the music business?

NL: The reason why many artists in the fandom are doing so well of late is because of the growth of the world community itself. The more people who join the fandom, the more potential clients there are. I have yet to scratch the surface of even popular commissioners, I have provided most of my services to those who join the community. You also have to provide your clients with a sense of professionalism, communication is key to becoming successful in any industry. New artists that join websites like Furafinity, Ink bunny or even DeviantArt – have so many potential clients at their fingertips. It's all about where you advertise yourself and if those people would be interested in what you can provide.

FT: We often hear that this is a "difficult" market to enter now, unless you are willing to draw NSFW in which case the bar lowers considerably. What is your views on this?

NL: On the contrary, I started out doing only SFW commissions – the only reason I switched over was to gain more clientele so I could provide for myself when I left the nest, so to speak. If I made something that everyone would know about – an animation, a comic, a game – I'd probably not have needed to. As I said before, innovation is something I want to be akin to. But if I may give useful advice to those who wish to seek fortune as a digital artist; try make something that everyone would love – comics is the easiest route. Made something that goes viral and you will end up having more clients than I have ever had in the last 6 years.

FT: Do you find your clients are generally easy to please or do you have some horror stories to share?

NL: There has been a few bad cookies, but less than I can count in one of my hands. As I said before – you have to provide a sense of professionalism to your clients. Meaning you have to be strict in how you put your art out there for people to see, talk to them and gain an understanding. What I usually do is I work on about 10 commissions at the same time, and I talk to every one of those clients through every aspect of the art I'm providing for them. I find that a lot of my clients already like what I have to offer, but sometimes I forgot minor details that would have made me backtrack hours of work if I didn't provide them with work in progress snapshots of their commissions. So no, clients are relatively easy to please – and if you don't wish to be conned out of your services, you can start by gaining happy clients – apply for a trusted artists' position and clients would be more likely to commission you and pay upfront first. Because, like artists, clients have been conned out of their own wealth by those who just ignore them after being commissioned. Provide professionalism, and those clients will give you the respect you deserve as an artist.

FT: If there is one piece of advice you can give to aspiring artists, what would it be?

NL: Improve yourself with every step of the way, don't be afraid to be inspired by other artists...work out how they do things and apply it to your own art. Provide clients with professional communication and motivate yourself every day to at least do a sketch of something. I am that person who walked out of stressful situations to avoid work – if I can motivate myself and apply myself, I know you can do it too 🐾

Price Guide

Choose a commission type

NSFW Commissions are always 50% extra base cost over the normal prices listed below.

Terms and Conditions apply

If you want a commission, please note me on

Furaffinity @ furaffinity.net/newpm/nanukkluik/
Email @ nanukk_sdc@hotmail.com



Illustration

General Starting Cost

\$100 USD +

Illustrations are commission with **Full Shade** and **Backgrounds**

Illustrations are always **Full Shaded** commissions that have a fixed price involved with 1 or more characters and an advanced background of anything.

Base:

1 Character Full Shaded
Advanced Background

Additional Characters
- \$50USD each
50% extra from the total
base cost of the entire
artpiece

Pinups are single/multiple character commissions that do not involve a background / have a faint colour background that fits with the commission.

First Character:	\$65 USD
- Additional:	\$50 USD
Extra Limbs:	\$25 USD per a pair
Alternative Ver:	\$30 USD each
Props (each):	
Simple:	\$15 USD
Weapon:	\$20 USD
Advanced:	\$25 USD
Armour:	\$25 USD
Design (each):	
Tattoo	\$10 USD
Body Pattern	\$15 USD

Flat Colour

First Character:	\$40 USD
- Additional:	\$30 USD
Extra Limbs:	\$20 USD per a pair
Alternative Ver:	\$20 USD each
Props (each):	
Simple:	\$10 USD
Weapon:	\$15 USD
Advanced:	\$20 USD
Armour:	\$20 USD

Pinup



Spot



Reference Sheet

Each Pose	\$40 USD
Additional Limbs	\$20 USD each
Alternative Pose	\$20 USD

Headbust	\$20 USD
Body Design	\$15 USD
Tattoo	\$10 USD each

Nsfw Ref Sheets are
50% extra from the total
base cost of the entire
artpiece

Focused:

Bodypart	\$15 USD
Tattoo	\$10 USD

Reference / Character Sheets are what every artist dreams of everyone having.
You should get one, they sometimes are necessary.

Icon/Headbust

Flat	\$20 USD
Full	\$30 USD

You know what these are, surely

However, stickers
are for telegram
use only!

Stickers

Base:

Headbust	
Single Char	\$15 USD
Additional	\$10 USD
Halfbody	
Single Char	\$25 USD
Additional	\$20 USD
Fullbody	
Single Char	\$40 USD
Additional	\$30 USD

* NSFW = One of Above + 50%



IMPORTANT, you need to buy 5 Stickers at a time to get this commission

DOG DAYS

ドッグデイズ

Dog Days, now in its third season, is an anime that is sure to have some furry appeal; as some of the characters are, well, rather furry. The story is generally about an alternate world known as Flonyard where the people are people, but have animal ears and tails. The characters have no lack of cuteness and sex appeal. This is evident in the fact that many characters, especially Millhiore, the princess of the Biscotti Republic (in the alternate world), is described as dog-like.

The anime faced mixed reception locally. As I recall, a lot of anime fans thought this type of anime was “too far out”



because at the time there was hardly any significant furry interest here; but as I've come to know more about the local fandom, it appears to have had renewed appeal. The anime is of course not outwardly furry, but it does include furry elements and a good dose of fantasy. It's definitely worth a watch. It started off slow and somewhat uninteresting, but it's now in its third season, which proves that it is quite popular.

So as far as furry anime goes, I recommend this as a fun anime that most furries would enjoy.



THE FURRY WORLD OF FLONYARD



| MAJOR \ MINOR

Upon initial inspection, Major\Minor seems to be something of an oddity. Major\Minor is a visual novel with furry leanings. All of the characters are anthropomorphic animals, and the story begins in an anthro version of modern day Japan. Your character is one of the “Lucky Two”, contestants that won a trip to tour with one of the most famous pop idols in the world, Klace. But it quickly becomes clear that there is more going on than meets the eye... especially as people begin to die...

Immediately upon starting the game, some odd design decisions are revealed. The game was made with RPG Maker MV, an engine much more suited for RPGs than visual novels. This seems especially odd when one considers that there are many other engines that could have been used for the project that were designed with visual novels in mind. Some of them are even open source and free to use, and would still function as a much more powerful tool for basing a visual novel on.

The limitations of the engine are on display as soon as you begin. Three options are presented to you: New Game, Continue (actually a load function), and Options. Within the options menu, all that can be changed are volume settings.



You are not even given the option to switch between full-screen and windowed modes. You are told the key for this as the game begins. Upon starting the game, even fewer options are on display. There is no in-game menu to speak of.

Saving can only be done at specified times in the story when you are prompted. Perhaps most questionably for a visual novel is the complete lack of any ability to look over a log of previous messages. This means that if you ever accidentally skip over or miss a message or line of dialogue or want to revisit something from earlier, you have no way of doing so, short of reloading a previous save.

Similarly, there is no way to skip over dialogue that you have seen before, which is a near necessity for a game predicated upon revisiting previous sections to make different choices. This seems to defy convention for how modern visual novels have been established to function. Certainly it frustrated me, having

come from playing other visual novels that have handled such matters with far more polish.

Once the technical aspects of the game have been set aside though, it has a lot to offer. The game's character art is gorgeous and the backgrounds are functional and pleasing to the eye. This is good, because you will be seeing a lot of the same character portraits for most of the game. Most characters seem to have only a single pose, with a few more major characters having one or two additional poses, and some characters having a different portrait for their introductions. Overall these are well done, with occasional quirks visible in the art. (One particularly notable example is a character who appears to have two left hands).

The music as a whole is good and serves its purpose well, always seeming to do an excellent job of adding to





the general atmosphere and tone.

Where the game really shines though is in the story. The writing itself is functional, and does a good job of absorbing you into the game's universe and engaging you with the characters, who are all very sympathetic and likeable, except when otherwise appropriate. There are some occasional minor errors in the writing (for example, the phrase "everything is thinking the same thing" appears at one point); and sometimes the game's word choice seems a bit odd, but as a whole it is not enough to detract from the rest of the story.

The story is complex, with multiple plot threads occurring at any given time that nonetheless seem to be interconnected. If I had any complaints in this regard, it might be that it feels sometimes that too much is

revealed too soon, and that you are made privy to situations and conversations that your character has no knowledge of. This means that you have information available to you that

have had otherwise. However, even with this extra knowledge, the game seems to do a good job of leaving some mysteries unrevealed, such as why events are in motion in the first place.

“It feels sometimes that too much is revealed too soon, and that you are made privy to situations and conversations that your character has no knowledge of. This means that you have information available to you that your character does not, and the motives of some characters are revealed perhaps earlier than I would have liked.”

It was certainly enough to keep me well engaged during my time playing, and I am looking forward to finishing the game to see what direction the story ultimately takes.

Overall, despite my complaints I would say that my first impression of Major\ Minor is a good one. If you can get past some of the game's quirks and shortcomings, you will be met with a very competent story with some brilliant characters and wonderful artwork to help draw you into the world. I

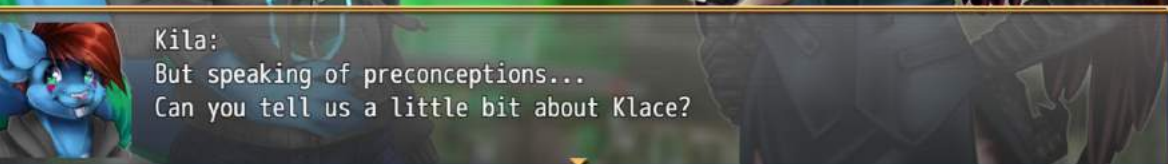
am keen to see if the story ends as strongly as it begins, and I am hopeful that the next game from the developers can only improve upon what seems to be a very solid first outing. 🐾

your character does not, and the motives of some characters are revealed perhaps earlier than I would have liked. It also means that when your character meets some of the other characters for the first time, it does not have quite the impact it might

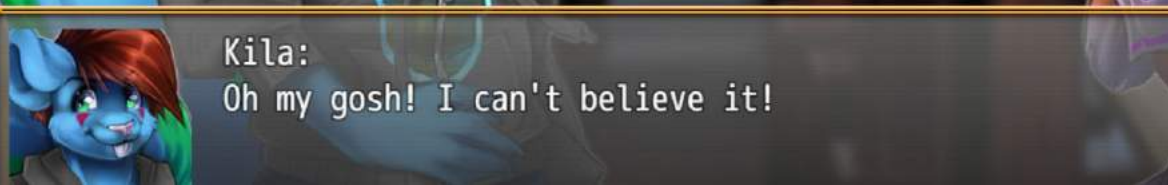




Rook:
Whatever.



Kila:
But speaking of preconceptions...
Can you tell us a little bit about Klace?



Kila:
Oh my gosh! I can't believe it!

FAR LEFT BOTTOM

The game's opening screen, which is rather bare.

TOP

A section from your first encounter with Rook.

MIDDLE

Questions about the enigmatic pop idol.

BOTTOM

Look carefully and you might see something strange here...



IVIC

Lecturer by day and furry by day if need be. He loves working on furry projects and trying his paw at anything. Beyond that he's pretty much just an average dude.

While thinking about writing this article, I thought about prefacing that Japanese lifestyles are different from Western ones. However, when it comes to the day and age we live in, the world of corporate drudgery and 'rules of the workplace' seem to apply everywhere. From the youthful sparkle of starting a new job to the extremely quick 'coming down to earth' of the realization that you'll be stuck in for a while and the coping mechanisms that come with it, Aggretsuko shares all of these life-lessons in ten easy to consume, but at times, difficult to digest, ten minute (either use of the term minute applies here) titbits of the work-life of Retsuko, a dutiful red panda, and her colleagues.

Sanrio, the same company that created Hello Kitty uses a very similar 'kawaii' style to bring out this new and interesting take on what life in the 'real world' is like. Picked up for one season by Netflix (with a second recently confirmed), Aggretsuko seems to have taken anime fans, 'normies' and furies by storm. This seems rather out of place with the style it's been placed in. However, with this reviewer, it truly strikes a chord in its ability to very succinctly place all of these characters into very relatable positions.

The mundanity of work-life and the constant fear of doing the job wrong and being chewed out by a boss seems to fuel our characters into finding various escapes. Our main character attempts to find her escape in singing death metal (a choice I personally approve of as I reminisce on my own 20s and the use of Pantera as an escape mechanism in truly dark times). Other characters take to drinking or sucking up to bosses, depending on the situation, all the while showing how they truly begin to grow up in the working world.

This particular series, much like many other series from Japan, is able to encapsulate a feeling of reality that seems to only recently be picked up in the likes of other American series like "Bojack Horseman" and tends to aim for the jugular, with how accurate it is to the day-to-day of real life and what these challenges that we face mean. In some ways showing us that even the best-laid plans will eventually lead to moments where the rose-tinted glasses are taken off.

Beyond all of this, Aggretsuko also takes on the ever-present topic of sexism in the workplace by showing how different females deal with the way they are treated. From being ignored into non-existence, to being tar-

geted for daring to speak up or even taking charge in the most badass way I've ever witnessed, it shows a side of the working world that many popular series tend to skirt past, and for that Aggretsuko deserves even more praise for its openness.

Aggretsuko does exactly what it needs to do. It shows us that life is not always as simple as the white towers of universities or colleges or high schools have told us it would be. It teaches us that creating a one-size-fits-all plan isn't necessarily what we actually want and it also shows us, in essence, the dangers that could happen if you don't allow yourself some freedom within the rat race. It shows an imperfection of character to us that we need to be able to see and I for one am hoping to see more of the same in the next season.

Licensed By **NETFLIX**

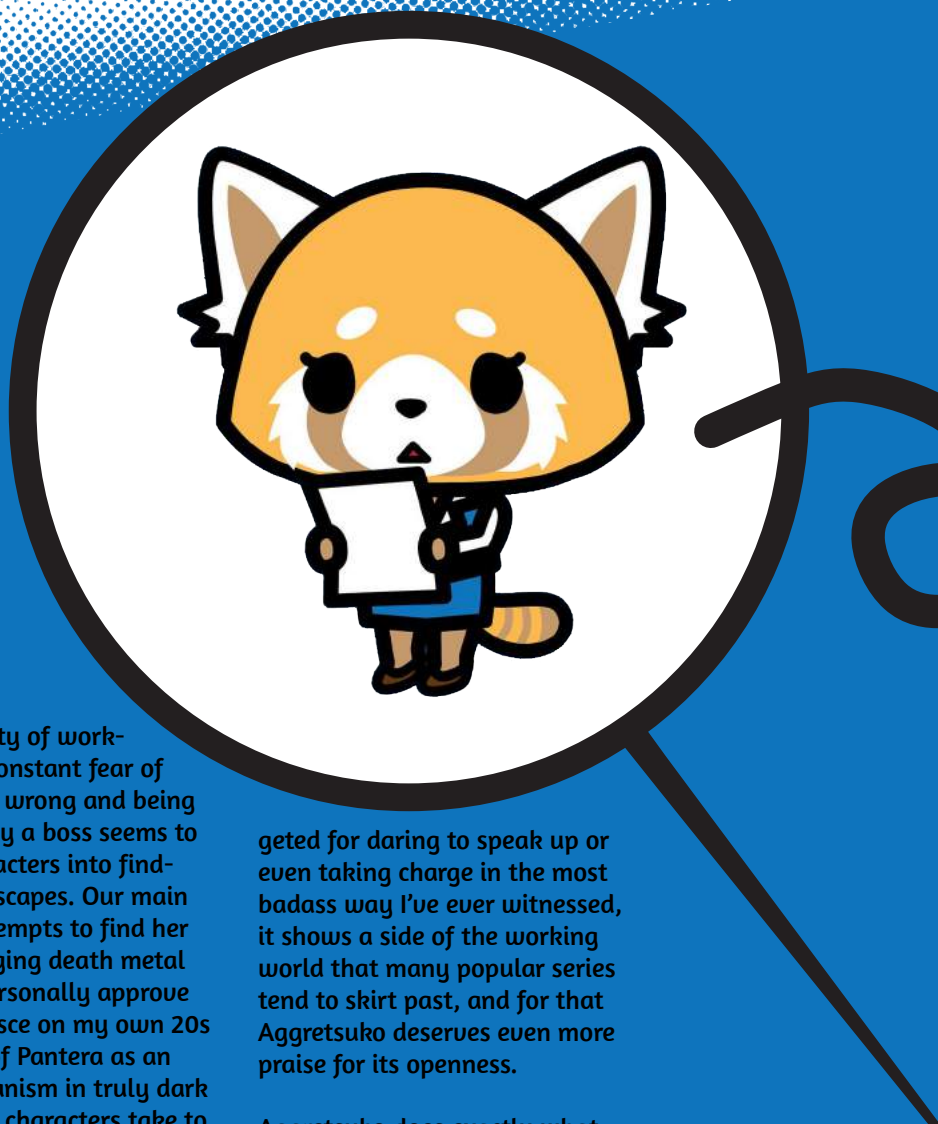
Seasons: One

Episodes: 10

Link: <https://www.netflix.com/za/>

Official site:

<https://www.sanrio.co.jp/character/aggresiveretsuko/>



Aggretsuko

**A JOURNEY THROUGH THE LIFE
OF A CORPORATE SLAVE**





GEEKFEST 2018 ENCHANTMENT- FROM START TO FINISH WITH FURRY GOODNESS

FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, GEEKFEST WAS HOSTED AT MONTECASINO in Fourways, Johannesburg- A venue boasting a central location, excellent facilities, and talented organisers. However, this year the weather played along... gone was the miserable, wet and cold weather from 2017 (which so graciously gave yours truly a nice cold). This year we were treated to cool, sunny weather. For fursuiting, this was ideal in every way. The sky was mostly cloudy, and when the sun did peek out to greet the convention, it was wholly pleasant.



WOLFERS

is your not-so-run-of-the-mill Wolfbear hybrid, hailing from Johannesburg and pretending to be normal during office hours. When he has time, he attempts writing, editing and photography.

WORDS: WOLFERS

PHOTOGRAPHY:
WOLFERS & DIRE WOLF



In contrast to last year, Geekfest 2018 did a spectacular job of building a great layout for the event. The food stalls were grouped to the east of the main courtyard, and the stalls were logistically placed around a central arena area reserved for activities like live action role play and robot wars. The stage on the west side was just far enough so that the on-stage events never really overpowered the colourful atmosphere. Ha, I could hear myself think.

Immediately upon entry, one was greeted with a row of kitted-out cars – amongst which was QFox's trusty steed, KITT from Knight Rider. KITT was flanked by a faithful representation of the Ghostbusters' car, a nod to the ECTO-1 Cadillac of the original movies, plus a cheeky Chev Lumina UTE by the name of BB-V8.



Above
Convention setting, courtyard centre

Right
Q-Fox with KITT

Below Right
Vehicle lineup featuring BB-V8

Far Right
Luna and Mochi





As you made your way through the convention, the various stalls were filled with a wide variety of merchandise, crafts and trinkets. Notably this year, there seemed to be a bigger focus on smaller items and speciality handiwork.

Some of the creative ideas the exhibitors came up with were simply brilliant. Tongue-in-cheek gadgets and knickknacks, unique items, and detailed pieces of art. The steampunk corner stand was awe inspiring, with artful combinations of stylised copper piping, treated wood and modern tech. Ah, yes the bacon jam stand was simply delectable. “Who in their right mind would create such an abomination?”, you’d rightfully ask. But trust me on this one, it tastes so much better than it sounds.





This would also be where our first fursuiters were spotted - none other than Jake and Metalus. Jake was cosplaying as Sven from Frozen, and Metalus was cosplaying as Syleron, his sergal fursona.



By this time, they had already amassed quite a considerable crowd of fans and onlookers hoping for photos with the fuzzy beasts. Jake took the opportunity to strut his stuff for a bit, and with some mild encouragement was blowing clouds of cotton candy lies from his snout.



After a few more rounds through the crowded tents and fascinating stands, our next fur suiter popped in for a small chat. Iron-wolf Tempest looked dashing as ever and wowed the visitors to the convention with his detailed suit.



Most of our fuzzy friends gathered around the catering area, exchanging their experiences of the day so far, and offering hints as to where the best deals were. At the coffee stand, a new fur made his first appearance – Luna the space cat visited Geekfest for the first time this year. While drawing a crowd of interested people, Luna was joined by Mochi the panda, who posed with him for a few pretty photos.



One of the best group appearances was the group of Avengers, parading around the convention accompanied by a smattering of other Marvel and DC characters. Some heroic poses were had, and they happily posed with a couple of the fursuiters.

The group of heroes moved amongst fans and nodded to the mere low folk and fellow cosplayers with dignity. Later we found out it was the Randburg Bears community, and the showing was even more appreciated.

AVENGERS



A fashionably late appearance by Nixie and DragonWolf rounded off Day One. Footpaws protesting as they were, we made our way back into MonteCasino to have a quiet lunch and reflect on the happenings of the day. All in all, more than 20 furs attended Geekfest 2018. The turnout was nothing short of legendary, and everyone had a smashing time. You have no doubt seen the videos and feedback from the community. The weather played along, the community pulled together, and we all had a great time.

Guys – you make the author proud. Well done on a great Geekfest 2018 – let's make 2019 just 30% better. Totally achievable, right? 🐾

MORE OF GEEKFEST 2018...



In this edition, we are proud to exhibit posters for two furry parties: the first from 1988, and the second from LosCon 1996. Again, notice these are hand-drawn artworks and are incredibly detailed.

the main event...

...harbor view holiday inn

... after the masquerade (~9:00)



L. RUND 88

DANCE ON DOWN
TO THE...

FURRY PARTY!

ROOM 271
EAST TOWER

7PM 'till ?

ART! VIDEOS! 'ZINES!
OTHER NIFTY STUFF!





CONFUZZLED 2018

IT'S TIME TO PLAY- VIDEO GAMES THAT IS

CONFUZZLED 2018 WAS THE FIRST FUR CONVENTION I PERSONALLY HAVE ever been to. This years' theme was "Let's Play" and it was clear to see it was a popular theme with all the furs that attended.

From Portal-themed photoshoots to gaming panels, this years' convention catered to all furs with many events, gaming or not. From Mario Kart, karaoke, fursuit craft panels, art panels, fursuited events such as cats in boxes and even a fursuit fiasco! Although no Confuzzled would've been complete without the moto furs event and of course the fursuit parade and dance competition.

Many popular events made a huge comeback, from werewolves, to agents and of course the ever so popular Pawpets. Sadly this would be their last show for a while. Fear not, they shall return, but we all need a rest sometimes.

The YouTube panel proved popular with many furs starting off, hosted by well-known UK furs such as PR Wolf and Artemis; not to mention the new judging lineup for the dance competition with the likes of Zippy and Leon spreading their opinion on all the amazing dancers and myself included.

Once again the money raised for charity was a substantial amount, well over the amount raised last year, which will help Vale Wildlife rescue more injured and sick UK wildlife. Once again the amount of food consumed by attendees was definitely enough to make us all laugh. We sure do love our bacon and beer.

In conclusion, once again Confuzzled was a huge success and we really hope you can join us for Confuzzled 2019.

Will you accept the mission?



SKYLINE

Greetings , I'm Skyline a humble Corgi Fox from the good old United Kingdom, my only aim in life is to make others smile anyway I can. I am an artist and fursuiter.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Sean C and Drachetto





FURRY MISCONCEPTIONS

WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH A FURPILE?

A public scene of fursuit-clad people goofily piled on top of and next to each other that, depending on who you might ask, either evokes a strong reaction of disgust or one of indifference. I primarily blame a popular TV series called CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) and an old episode from 2003, (specifically S04E05) for evoking these strong feelings of disgust in many people. This particular episode, portraying a furpile as an intense orgy, has been remembered to this day for its grossly incorrect portrayal of the fandom. That was, however, quite a long time ago, but it does prove the staying power of shock value.



As can be seen in the accompanying diagram, a furpile is nothing more than a bunch of goofy people in fursuits just fooling around. While it is certainly not recommended for reasons to do with possible injury, it is comparable to, say, an attempt to fit as many people as possible into a small car. We've all tried goofy things when we were young, especially in college or high school. This is probably the furry equivalent of those fun things. It's certainly nothing to be ashamed of: perhaps a bit cringeworthy, but nothing that will require you to carry contraception.

NO, ITS NOT WHAT TV THINKS IT IS...



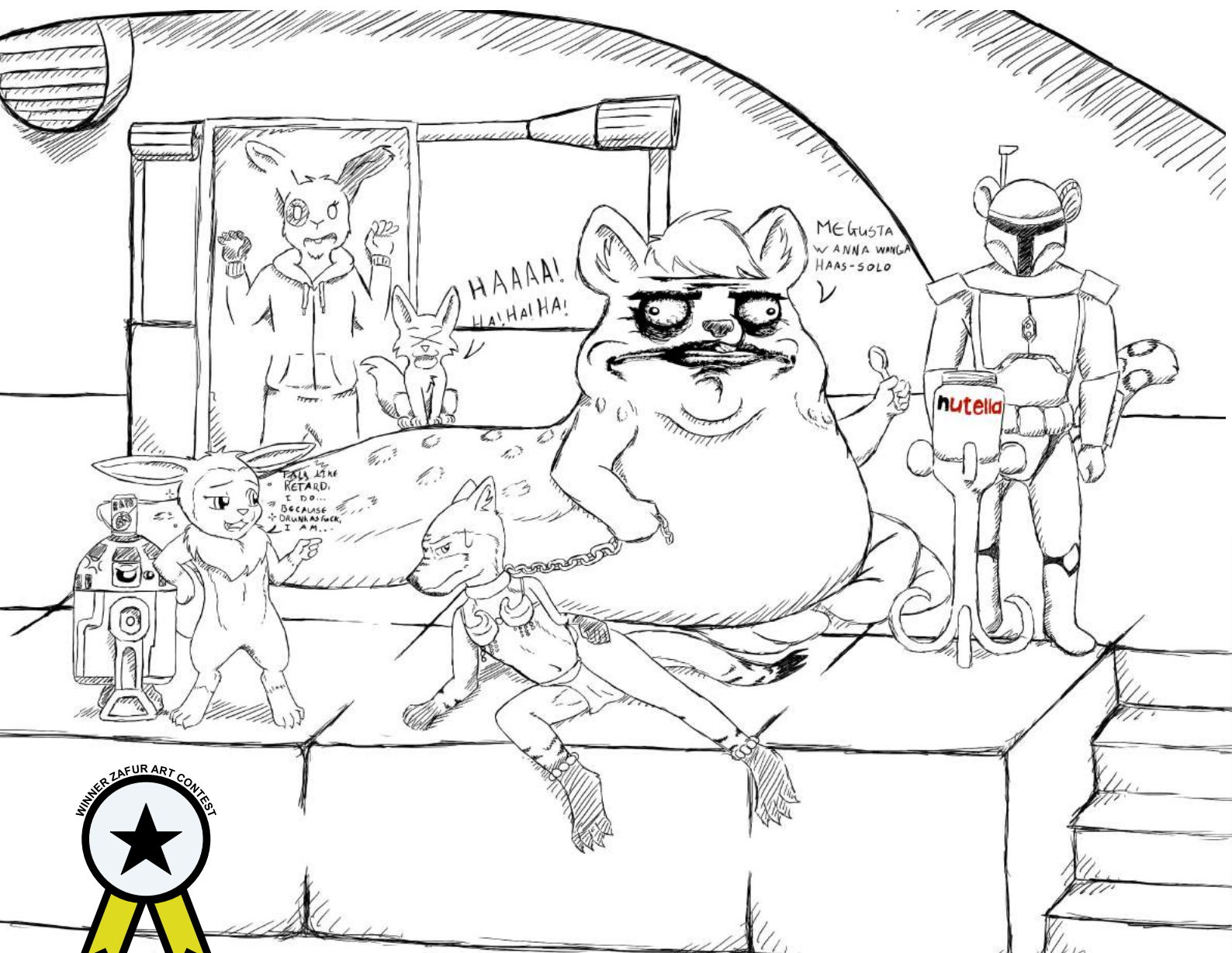
Television... Oh, that medium of perpetual bull-feces affecting impressionable minds. The screen capture shown here, taken from the infamous episode 5 of the 4th season of CSI (Crime Scene Investigation), aptly titled "Fur and Loathing", would lead every casual member of the public to believe that the ultimate purpose of being in the fandom and having a fursuit is to end up like this; having group yiffing (complete with orgasmic moaning).

While there are those individuals who may engage in this in the privacy of their homes (and I can think of far worse taking place in homes that nobody seems to care about), this does NOT usually happen at a conference or furmeet. Generally you can expect those kinds of events to be subject to codes of conduct. Parents, your kids are almost certainly safer at a fur con than at some raves!



FURRY HUMOUR

EVERY EDITION WE HAVE A FINE COLLECTION OF furry jokes and other bits and pieces to put a smile on your muzzle. Sit back, relax and have a good laugh at these-



Thunderfluff Mcevee
A friendly neighborhood smut artist from the internet, better known as Animew. Spends most of the time drawing yiff but also enjoys messing with people on forums. "People need to lighten up"



SHADOW-CHU By Vaporotem- <https://vaporotem.deviantart.com>





FURRY PERSPECTIVES

FURRY TIMES brings you some perspective from the fandom out there, sometimes whispers we happen to hear, other times, letters, tweets, or messages.

The Furry Closet (and why mine is always open)

Growing up, I was always that odd chick on the playground. As a youth I was a horsey girl, so up until I turned 12 I was still cantering Silver (my imaginary pony) over benches and the like in the garden, or talking to my many invisible friends, or myself. (I am a great conversationalist. If only I'd taken the time to listen to myself.) This pattern continued on through high school. I was often a loner, but at the same time I had a dozen or so friends. We were all social misfits so we just banded together. We all liked art and cartoons. I mean, I was the only one who wanted to marry Trunks from Dragonball or that creepy Fox from Courage the Cowardly Dog. I had long since cemented my style as "a uniquely weird girl who doesn't give a damn what you think."

That was basically my flag and I think I bore it proudly.

Joining the big world and getting a job, I still hadn't conformed... I had a weekly meeting at my first corporate job to remind me what to wear to look professional. I then had a bi-monthly meeting to "take notes on the meeting", my boss' excuse to let me doodle at work. I was fortunate, because all of this meant that when I came out of the furry closet, no one really batted an eyelid. I wore my first tail to work 4 times in my first year of furrydom.

I'm very fortunate that I have this very forward personality. It enters a room at least 4 minutes before I do. It has its own passport and because of this people just accept me. I have bad habits and people just take them for what they are. I'm a lesbian, teaching young kids whilst working for a heavily religious boss and no one cares.

It isn't just because I live in the UK now, it was like that for me in South Africa as well. Not a single one of the communities or groups I was a part of had rejected me for my millions of weird quirks. Well... besides this one lady at my stables who didn't accept my Coca-Cola addiction... she was a meanie.



Raven Song

I, Raven, am a self confessed wackjob. Bubbling over with more personality than a Hollywood starlet, I'll do my absolute best to make sure that you have a blast of a time, and never forget me

As a community and as a society, we have grown used to being persecuted, and persecution comes from lack of understanding. It's hard for people to understand things they don't get exposed to. Obviously society (for whatever reason they have) are less vocal over their dislike of lesbians than they are of gays, and I get that. Seeing that most furs are gay, it stands to reason that due to being attacked for one secret you'd want to hide the other for fear of further lashings.

But just hear me out on this.

I've yet to have a truly negative thing said to me about being a fur. Even by my boss who saw that one specific CSI episode. She just laughed at me in such a sweet way and told me as long as I don't mess up the carpet I can do what I want. Yeah fine, I take negative talk a lot better than most (I was born a ginger. If I can't take a joke, I'd have exploded by now).

That's my point. I can live entirely out the furry closet around kids, clients, family, strangers because I'm projecting that personality. That "Hey, we're all stuck here on this hellhole we call Earth buddy, and I'm having fun while I'm here" personality.

I just hope more furs can see that there is hope for a life of openness. I achieved it and I don't give a damn, because I can be what I want around anyone. Being a furry is just another thing I want to be and my closet door is proudly open to all. We can have cookies on the other side of it.



LSBN



FURRY TIMESTM

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN FURS

Needs You

DO YOU ATTEND:

- OVERSEAS CONS • OVERSEAS FURMEETS
- FURRY EVENTS IN FAR-FLUNG PLACES

OR PERHAPS YOU ARE A FURRY ARTIST, OR WRITER
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR YOUR OPINION, YOUR INPUT
OR YOUR CONTRIBUTION.

DROP US A LINE AT info@furrytimes.co.za

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

EXCELLENT DISCOUNTED RATES FOR
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ENQUIRIE AT INFO@FURRYTIMES.CO.ZA



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bespoke paraphernalia



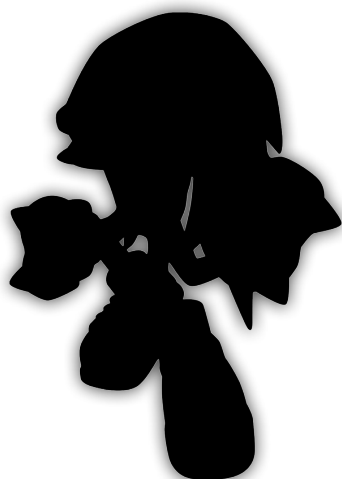
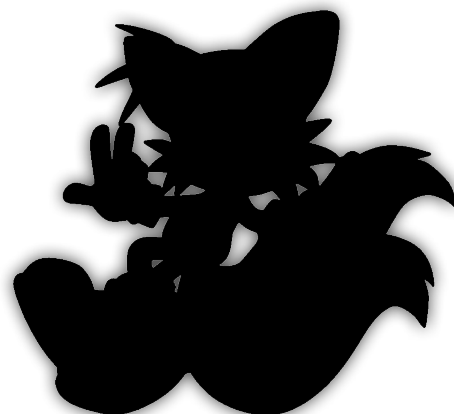
DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE OF CUSTOM FURRY APPAREL

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PROPS, AND MORE...



MADE TO YOUR SPECIFICATION AND TAILORED
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SONICTHEHEDGEHOG.APP



FANCON 2018 @ CTICC

AN AWESOME ATMOSPHERE OF COMMON GROUND

THE ANNUAL FANCON CONVENTION WAS HELD THIS YEAR AT THE CAPE TOWN International Convention Centre (CTICC) at the end of April. I grew up in Gauteng and attended many a convention of many different types, and I must say that I was blown away by the setup and operation of this convention this year.

It was wonderful, full of people from all different walks of life. From the cosplayer to the normal convention goer, there was something for everyone. The furies were very welcome of course, drawing attention from people asking them to pose for a photograph or two and ask about the furry fandom itself. When talking to a few people, I found out that there were many closeted furies. Hopefully we will see them in the future, should they choose to come out and show themselves.

Most of the stands were eye-catching to draw in the fans from different fandoms that you could expect at a convention. There were vendors who made and sold their various types of stunningly crafted wooden wands and others who sold their knitted hats in the styles of Pokemon and other various creatures and items. People came together to play card and board games, and others competed in the cosplay events. There were some amazing costumes that deserved their wins that weekend. You could meet recognisable national and international names in panel sessions in various areas at certain times of the day, and learn a lot about various topics such as "LARPING 101", "10 Ways To Find YouTube Epicness" and "What Is Cosplay and How To Get Involved".

Something that had me in awe was the atmosphere of the convention. There was something about the way everyone just clicked and had common ground. I've been to conventions where people just want to be left alone, but at Fancon you feel like part of the large group and feel happy with all the fun things going on around you.

The artist's area was fantastic. I believe there was something in most styles you can think of. I enjoyed the caricatures and paintings or sketches of animals, and will be getting some commissions from the various amazing artists. This is a wonderful place to showcase work, if you want to get your name out. There was also chance to meet many famous artists, comic book illustrators and authors so it was also a wonderful chance to network, if this becomes a career or income generating hobby.

Fancon 2018 was fantastic and I believe that it'll grow and get better every year, with so much to offer. See you at the next one!🐾



Totem Tiwote

Totem Tiwote has been a part of the fandom since 2012 and is a casual writer who enjoys the company of companion animals, horse riding and gaming.





NordicFuzzCon 2018

REPORT BY ETHAN STAGHORN AND TIMMY FOX



THE LEGEND OF EL DORADO IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

THIS YEAR'S NORDICFUZZCON (NFC) TOOK PLACE IN LATE FEBRUARY

outside Stockholm, Sweden. In just six short years, NFC has grown from a start-up convention of 170 people to Europe's third largest furry con and the fifth largest in the world outside North America, with more than 900 registered attendees. Although located in Scandinavia, the attendance was surprisingly international: in addition to furies from just about every major European country, there were also visitors from North America, a handful of Asian countries, and even as far away as Australia.

The 2018 iteration marked the second NordicFuzzCon taking place in the Scandic Infra City hotel, which has quickly become a favourite for its spectacular lobby in the form of a tropical courtyard across several floors, with lush greenery surrounding a pond with a waterfall, fountains, and even koi carps. The lobby was not only a great social space for relaxation, but also provided a fabulous backdrop for fursuit photography. Seriously, check out those pics! The jungle-like setting was equally good a fit for the 2018 convention theme "The Legend of El-Dorado", which revolved around Mesoamerican culture.

Despite its subarctic location, winter weather is never a certainty at NordicFuzzCon, but this year all of Northern Europe got caught in a nice, cold February blizzard. The resulting winter wonderland was great for photography, snowball fights, and for cooling off when in costume, but less fun for the unfortunate international attendees whose flights got snowed in.

As a major regional furry con, NFC provides many of the convention staples you'd expect, such as a high-flying Guest of Honour and opportunities to donate to furry-relevant charitable causes. This year the convention charity was "Assistenthunden", a nonprofit dedicated to service animals, while the Guest of Honour was none other than Laura "Kazul G Fox" Mercer, who flew in all the way from Utah for her first appearance outside US borders. Kazul is well known as a multiple-award winning cosplayer. She most recently gained attention by winning the prestigious Blizzcon costume contest with her werewolf costume "Hogger", based on an iconic boss creature from World of Warcraft.





Look beyond the convention staples, however, and you'll find that NordicFuzzCon has a strong focus on experience and innovation. This was noticeable in many ways around the con. This year, they went all out on a set of ten – count 'em – ten different bouncy castles which, despite the name, also included slides, climbing walls, balance acts, and a hilariously fursuiter-unfriendly obstacle course.

Another special NordicFuzzCon initiative is the "Open House", where families, curious onlookers, and the general public are invited into the convention space for a day to get a feel for our warm and fuzzy fandom. This included not only spectating on the fursuit parade, but also playing with the toys and the 'giant plush animals' in the "Fursuit Zoo". The Open House has proved especially popular with younger furries in Scandinavia, since European furry conventions traditionally are 18+ events.

NFC also spends a lot of effort on integrating their theme into the convention, not only in artwork and conbook content, but also through things such as themed events. Since

the Japanese theme at NFC 2017 the convention now hosts an annual fursuit maid café, where fursuits in maid costumes serve as wait staff. Special events for this year included a Mayan-themed haunted house, a panel on Mesoamerican mathematics, several rum and chocolate tastings, and "Eat South

“ Another special NordicFuzzCon initiative is the “Open House”, where families, curious onlookers, and the general public are invited into the convention space for a day to get a feel for our warm and fuzzy fandom

”

America” (which was notably less worrying than the infamous fermented herring, “surströmming”, tasting in 2017). Anyone dressed in Mesoamerican garb were eligible to receive a special pin from the convention, and the attendees got in on the theme too with quite a few unique, themed costumes walking about, including a fursuit design based on Mexican sugar skulls.

Speaking of costumes, there sure were a lot of them – around 50% of the attendees brought a fursuit, which is a high number by international standards. As a way of helping fursuiters and non-suiters to socialise and interact, NFC has pioneered a “Gotta Catch ‘Em All” game. Every participating fursuit gets a unique code on a badge that they wear; by entering that code into the convention webpage you can “catch” that fursuiter, and a picture of them shows up in your official convention app, along with fun info such as name, species, number of times captured, and Pokémon type. There was also a centralised scoreboard and a little indicator of which fursuits that recently were out and captured.

In general, NFC spent a lot of effort on little games such as these, and the official app tracked progress on a host of different achievements around the convention beyond just catching fursuiters. Personal favourites include the “Raiders of the lost Bark” (love that pun) and the achievement for the best/worst play in the game “Cards Against NFC”, an expansion for the ever popular “Cards Against Humanity” themed around NFC.

Some attendees were real completionists with these achievements, perhaps because the most proficient achievement hunters received a prize at Closing Ceremonies.

The innovations continued outside the hotel lobby: The bar provided blank drink coasters that the patrons quickly filled up with drunken crayon masterpieces, while the hotel restaurant encouraged attendees to scribble on their paper tablecloths. The hotel corridors – usually quite a utilitarian space – were livened up with scattered toy bowling sets and several comic strip exhibits.

NFC also arranges events outside of the hotel, with a tradition of making a trip into Stockholm city for a fun activity. This year, attendees were invited on a “ghost walk” in Stockholm’s medieval Old Town, which proved bone-chilling in more than one way: not only was it a spooky adventure, but the weather was so cold, in fact, that the attendees had to seek shelter in a local bar as soon as the walk concluded. It turned out to have been the coldest night of the season.

Another NordicFuzzCon signature feature is the convention mascot, Mausie, who can be spotted all around the event. Mausie is an adorable rat-mouse hybrid, commonly referred to as a “raus”, that exists in many versions: artwork, different plushies, a huge inflatable, and even a very peppy fursuit that tends to travel to many different furry conventions around the globe. He also maintains a presence on social media and stars in animations and even his very own music video, “Cheese Party”, which can be found on YouTube. Mausie has turned out to be a very popular embodiment of the NordicFuzzCon spirit, rivalled only by the unicorn-kigurumi wearing hotel staff member known affectionately as “Rainbow Pete”.

Next year, NFC is returning to its Nordic roots with the theme “A Winter Howliday: Yule Love It!” One can only hope the gorgeous winter weather returns! Registration opens September 22nd, in case you are interested in taking part in the fun. Better be quick, though, since the main convention hotel tends to sell out in just a few minutes! If not, perhaps you will run into Mausie at another con somewhere in the world, as he spreads happiness and hugs and explores the world in search of cheese and other ingredients for making a great furcon. 🐾

WORDS: Ethan Staghorn & Timmy Fox

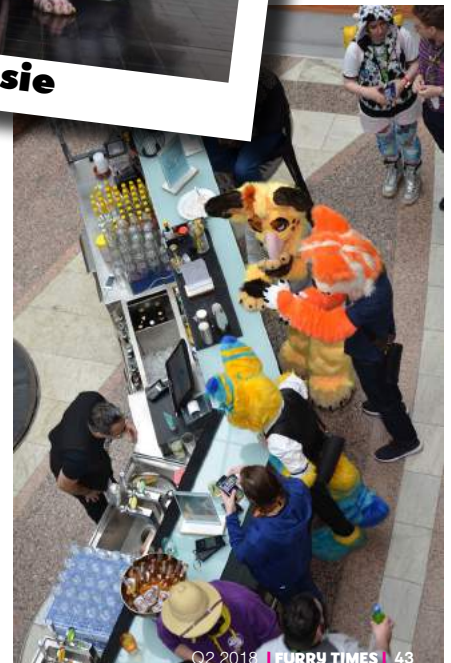
PHOTOGRAPHY: Sean C

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Mausie

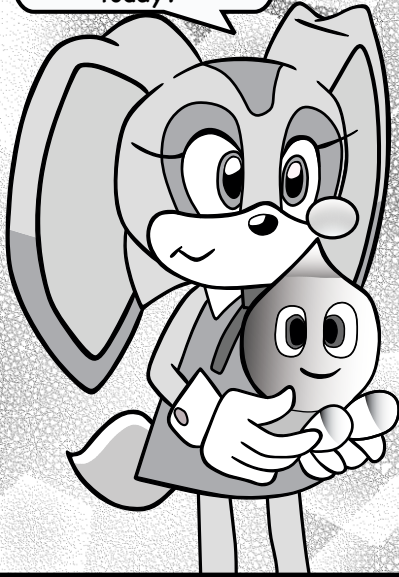


SONIC

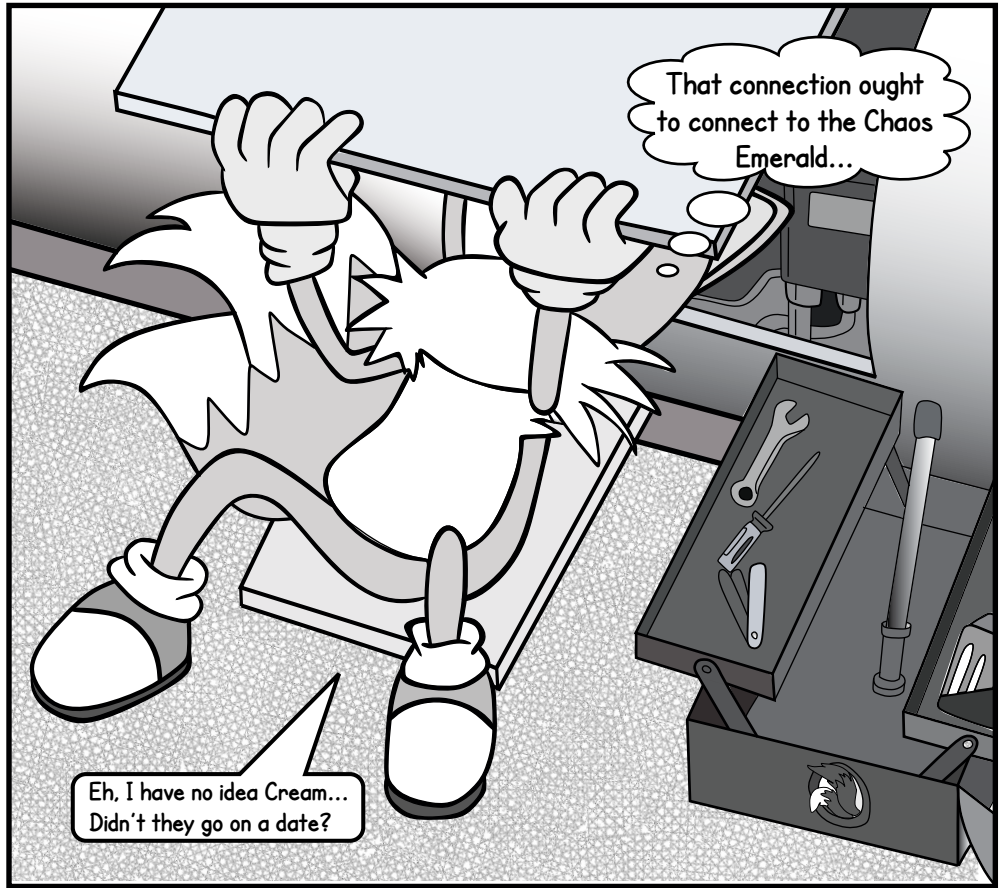
THE HEDGEHOG

TRUE LIFE STORIES

Hey Tails,
Do you know where
Sonic and Amy went
today?



Eh, I have no idea Cream...
Didn't they go on a date?



That connection ought
to connect to the Chaos
Emerald...



NYAAAAAH!

BOOM



WHOOPS!
Guess that
didn't work!

HEY! That was
very scary. I
thought I was
gonna die!

CH-CHAO!



FURRY TIMES™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN FURS

FURRY TIMES - THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN FURS

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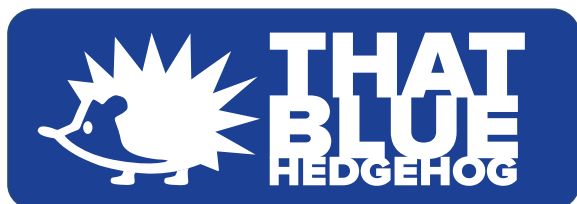
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